The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and political fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYES ASK FOR APPEAL BOARD

Washington, Jan. 29.—Representative Keating of Colorado, chairman of the house labor committee, has introduced a bill to take the arbitrary power of demotion and dismissal of classified civil service employes from the heads of departments, and give these workers the right of appeal to the United States board of mediation and conciliation. At present postal department officials and other bureau chiefs prefer charges, sustain their own charges and fix the penalty. There is no appeal from this combined judge, jury and executioner.

It is this practice that forced Fairmont postal employes to pay $250 in a body and later to be fined by Judge Dayton on conspiracy charges.

The Keating bill is supported by the civil service employes affiliated to the American Federation of Labor. Representative of the many affiliated postal employes are urging the passage of the Porter bill, also pending in congress. The Porter bill alleges to accord postal workers the right to a trial before they can be disciplined. It provides that the court shall be selected by the postmaster or the division superintendent, and that the trial must be approved by the postmaster general.

"Your organization opposes legislation that would legalize the right of a postmaster, a division superintendent, or a postmaster general to discharge a man and then select a jury to try him," said Secretary-Treasurer P. J. Flaherty of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks. "What chance would we have before one of these hand-picked juries?"

"The postal employes want to curb the power of the department officials, not to extend it. And yet we find representatives of postal organizations advocating a abortive measure of this kind under the guise of a court of appeals bill. No right thinking postal employe can afford to play into the hands of the enemy. In such legislation, should lend his support to it."

WHAT ARKANSAS FARMERS ASK

Dunning, Ark., Jan. 29.—At a meeting of farmers in this city, one of the speakers told the farmers how to keep a ham sound for two years. In answer to their necessity to eat his hams, gravy, bone and all before they have much more than time to eat cold. Unfortunately for us we are financially able to indulge in such sentimentality. If the old fashioned way of set up a scheme whereby the farmer will be financially able to live for even two years without eating ham and the farmers of this country will erect a monument that will make the statue of Liberty look like a pigmy.

This last mentioned speaker, when asked direct questions, made some very unpopular acknowledgements. He admitted that farm tenancy and landlordism was on the increase; that the principle of land-rent was wrong; that the farmer was at the mercy of big business, and that it was a cut-throat game."

INCOME TAX LAW IS UPHELD.

Washington, Jan. 29.—The United States supreme court has unanimously upheld the constitutionality of the income tax provisions of the new federal tariff act in a decision that interprets in the broadest manner the taxing power of the federal government.

The effect of the decision will be to increase sentiment for higher taxes on large incomes. Representative Hull, the author of the law, said:

"The decision has blottered the income tax as a source of revenue. All doubt is removed and congress is left much freer to act. I believe that congress will take advantage of the opportunity to amend the law materially. Without any unusual or large expenditure it can be made to yield $185,000,000 to $295,000,000 a year, as against $85,000,000 to $100,000,000 at present."

According to last year's returns there were 357,515 incomes subject to the federal income tax. Included in the list were 69 of $1,000,000 and over. The minimum taxed, beginning at $3,000 or $4,000, was paid by 82,754 persons. It is predicted that a definite movement will now be started to tax the big private fortunes to pay for the army and navy increases.

OPPOSES CHILD LABOR.

New York, Jan. 29.—"Isn't there something wrong with our democracy when slavery and—then the cruel labor of 2,000,000 children?" asked Felix Adler in an address on "Dangers to Children in a Democratic Environment."

"There was children between 10 and 15 years of age in gainful occupations in the United States. There are more than 1,000,000 between 11 and 15. In all, there are a little less than 2,000,000," said the speaker, who urged the passage of the Keating-Owen bill, which has been reported favorably by the house committee on labor. This bill would debar from interstate commerce the products of children under 16 years of age in mines and quarries, and under 14 years in factories and workshops.

MACHINISTS RAISE WAGES.

Westfield, Mass., Jan. 29.—The newly formed Machinists' union has accepted the proposition of the 200 of the Westfield Manufacturing company and about 450 employes will receive a wage increase of 10 per cent. time and a half for overtime, double time for Sundays and holidays, union recognition through shop committees. The men asked for eight hours, and it is stated that this question is left open to be taken by the management at the close of the company's fiscal year, August 31.

SAFETY LAW PASSED.

Washington, Jan. 29.—Last week the house passed a bill to create a bureau of labor safety in the department of labor. Under the proposed act the secretary of labor is authorized to make special and general investigation of labor safety plans and devices of all kinds and the need for same; also to study and prevention of occupational diseases, and to make public, from time to time, the results of such investigation.

WAGE EARNERS PROTECTED.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 29.—Injured workmen and their dependents coming under the provisions of the state compensation law were paid $1,213,516 during 1915, according to the annual report of the state industrial accident board. In addition to this, $148,655 was paid out to employes to injured workmen for medical and hospital services, bringing the total to $1,361,719.

MARINE ENGINEERS DEFEND SEAMEN'S LAW

Washington, Jan. 29.—Sailors and firemen in coastwise and foreign-going vessels are employed to be able readily to understand the language of engineers, declared delegates to the Marine Engineers' Beneficial association convention, which unanimously adopted resolutions in favor of the present seamen's law and urged upon congress and the department of commerce to see that this law is "fairly construed and obeyed."

The resolutions state that discipline cannot exist unless the vessel's crew, or at least 75 per cent of them, are able to directly understand any orders that may be given under any and all conditions—normal and emergency—without the use of any interpreter. It is further stated that this percentage of the crew must possess not only experience and technical skill that they can execute any orders promptly and are willing to obey and exercise any and all orders with promptness as can only come from understanding and skill.

It is declared that "a large number of the men now employed as sailors and firemen on our coastwise service as well as foreign-going—are unable to understand even our usual orders without the use of an interpreter, and that this large number are unable to understand emergency orders, thereby endangering life and property."

Attention is called to the fact that the seamen's law was "passed to remedy such conditions, and would bring about the much needed change, if properly executed."

The convention decided to submit to the referendum the question of affiliation to the American Federation of Labor.

IS THERE ACADEMIC FREEDOM?

Washington, Jan. 29.—Are professors allowed to speak their minds freely? Or are they merely "hired men," to be engaged and discharged at the pleasure of the trustees? These and other questions affecting free speech in educational institutions of higher learning are discussed by Dr. S. P. Capen, of the federal bureau of education, in a bulletin that is now made to the secretary of the interior. Dr. Capen states that upon the settlement of this question depends the whole welfare of American education.

"That there is also at some pressure exerted in academic communities, as elsewhere, to keep radical propagandists quiet and discourage destructive criticism of the existing order none will deny," he says. "Its extent varies with the institution. As a rule, it is exerted subtly, often unconsciously, in large universities which are supposedly free." It is stated that "partisanship are not unknown where the governing boards of private institutions are made up of the institutions under their control belonged to them, and neither the educational officers nor the public have any right to demand reasons for their acts."

SILVER WORKERS ENJOINED.

New Haven, Conn., Jan. 29.—Judge Webb, of the superior court, has issued an injunction against the striking workers of the Meriden and Wallingford Metal Polishers' unions. The court orders these workers to refrain, under penalty of $1,000 from preventing and attempting to prevent any person to actual * * * from entering into or remaining in the employ of the plaintiffs or either of them.

Police officers of Meriden and Wallingford testified at the injunction hearing that they considered the strikers and the strikers say the fearsome mandate of Judge Webb against violence is wholly unnecessary as they are as well acquainted with the statutory law as is the honorable court. But interwoven in the writ is found the real purpose of the injunction—to stop picketing.

The strike against the company 4 last because the International Silver company refused to increase wages and reduce working hours. Nearly 2,000 are employes at Meriden, Wallingford and other Connecticut cities and towns are involved.

SOCIAL PREPAREDNESS FIRST.

New York, Jan. 29.—"Preparedness in every department of civic and social life is our present need. That is our first line of defense. Military preparedness is our second," said Dr. Harry A. Garfield, president of Williams college, in a speech in this city.

"The departure advocated by the enthusiasts for a big army and navy is not for a season, but permanently," continued Dr. Garfield. "If this is to be done, it is folly to endeavor longer to maintain our democratic institutions. If necessity dictates that we enter into competition with European states in the maintenance of great army and navy establishments, wisdom demands that we adopt as the permanent machinery of government that which under our conditions may best function—democracy only. In other words, that we put our liberties in commission and clothe our president with absolute authority and surround him with expert military advisers."

UNIONISM EXPANDS.

Holyoke, Mass., Jan. 29.—"There is certainly more unionism in the air in these good old New England states just now than there ever was," says the Artisan of this city. "In all trades there is a growing interest in the trade union movement, and there is no desire on the part of the unorganized to become members. Among the organizations that have come to life of late are those formed to make and bring conditions."

UNIONISM THEIR REFUGE.

Argenta, Ark., Jan. 29.—A dispute over the wages and working conditions between the Iron Mountain Railroad car shops laying off a large number of these employes, who then applied for work at the shops when getting as individuals. As a result of the "reckoning, the Car Men's union has now 90 additional members on its roll.

FOUNDRY WORKERS GAIN.

Bellaire, Ill., Jan. 29.—Foundry employes have raised wages nearly 25 per cent. Manufacturers first refused consenting to increase on the ground that wages were already higher than in competitive districts. When the employes arranged to go on strike, the demands were granted. It is stated that over 200 workers are benefited.

HUGE STEEL DIVIDENDS.

New York, Jan. 29.—The Bethlehem steel corporation has announced a 10 per cent wage increase for its unorganized workers, and it is also stated that the corporation has declared a dividend of $30 a share on its common stock out of earnings of the year 1915. These dividends represent $4,500,000. Wall street authorities declare that the earnings range from 75 to 100 per cent.

Workers Urge Immigration Restriction; "Ignorance Lowers Wages," They Say

Washington, Jan. 29.—Thursday and Friday of last week the house committee on immigration held public hearings on the Burnett immigration bill, which is practically the same legislation that was passed by the last congress and vetoed by President Wilson.

Organized industrial workers, railway men and the farmers presented a solid front in favor of the bill. The principal advocates of the measure were: Representative Burnett, author of the bill and chairman of the committee; A. F. of L. Secretary Morrison; Val Fitzpatrick, legislative representative of the brotherhood of railway trainmen, who spoke for those workers and for the brotherhoods of conductors, engineers and firemen, representing 24,000 employes, and J. H. Kimball, legislative agent of the National Farmers' Congress, representing 2,000,000 farmers. Messrs. Morrison, Fitzpatrick and Kimball handed the committee copies of numerous resolutions passed by their members, who have repeatedly insisted that immigration restriction by means of 3 literacy test is necessary to maintain American living standards.

Secretary Morrison devoted his argument mainly to the economic features of the question and the effect of low wages on the entire country. He cited recent happenings at Bungatown to illustrate how of stimulated immigration by steamship companies wage rates are forced down who want cheap labor. He referred to the recent expose of the National Liberal Immigration league, as did Chairman Burnett, to prove that big business has financed anti-restriction sentiment. The trade unionist read into the record some views on Prof. Elliott, who opposes the Burnett bill, and who was referred to by one of the anti-restrictionists as possessing a wider knowledge of this question than any other "cosmopolitan" viewpoint than "two-thirds of the members of congress."

"Prof. Elliott has said the strikebreaker is a hero," said Secretary Morrison. "The ex-Harvard educator is disqualified to be referred to as an unbiased witness because he is always found on the side of big business. He is the one man in America who has dared to exalt the gunman and thug."

Speaking for his colleagues who represent the conductors, engineers and firemen, Val Fitzpatrick declared that their organizations endorse the position of the American Federation of Labor on this and other questions of mutual interest. He surprised the committee by the declaration that southern and southwestern railroads employ foreigners, because other workers who can't distinguish one letter from another, and in case of accident hold conductors, engineers or firemen responsible. He said that railroad men are crowded out of their positions by foreign laborers, especially when they reach the age of 45 years, and are then forced to enter the industrial field in competition with them. The difference between living standard is lower and consequently wages are lower. He said:

"Let a man in the railroad transportation service make one mistake," said Fitzpatrick, "and he can't find employment on the American continent. He is forced to enter other fields and accept standards made by the illiterate. That's why men in the railway transportation service are restrictionists."

Representative Burnett called attention to the report of the immigration commission that investigated this question for nearly four years and then unanimously reported to congress that a literacy test was necessary. He quoted records to disprove the claim that restriction is a recent demand.

In masterful word pictures and flights of fancy Bourke Cochran, New York lawyer and former congressman, told of the benefits to society as the result of man's labor, and the unquenchable flame that burns in the breast of every alien who hopes some time to migrate "to the land across the sea and take part in the glorious institutions of that country." The speaker, however, failed to mention the periodical armies of unemployed, the serfdom that trails in their wake, the homeless illiterates, who lower American standards, or the fact that no provision made public by the federal bureau of naturalization that of the 14,000,000 foreigners in the country, 5,000,000 are citizens who retain their foreign allegiance, and 1,650,381 are illiterate who are admitted in the most unscrupulous manner.

Mr. Cochran's emotional and sentimental line of thought was followed by practically all of the other opponents, several of whom referred to "you" as proposed to be in Washington." Not one of them discussed fundamentals—the effect of unrestricted immigration on the economic and social life of our country.

EMPLOYERS MUST GIVE NOTICE.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 29.—Employers who waited until after the first of the year to reject the workmen's compensation law now find that they are under this law and will continue to be until 1917, except they give the date they give contrary notice.

The state workmen's compensation board is sending the following letter to those employers:

"Notices have been received from you in which you undertake to reject the provisions of the workmen's compensation act, in so far as it applies to your employes.

"In reply, you are advised that if you did not elect to come under the workmen's compensation act, it was necessary for you to reject before December 31, 1915.

"After January 1, 1916, your status remains unchanged. You cannot by any act of your own, at present now, except by notifying this office of your intention to do so, and also notifying your employes.

"Sixty days after such notice is received, the board will act upon your notification, and the rights of you and employes are under the workmen's compensation act, and entitled to compensation for injuries incurred in the performance of their duty."

BENEFITS OF LABOR DAY.

Washington, Jan. 29.—Writing to President Woodrow Wilson, Gribben, of the Topeka Federal Industrial Council, points out this Labor day incident:

"The Topeka labor organizations of Topeka participated in a street parade which was over five blocks long. Practically every shop had closed before its advent was generally conceded the cause of the general observance. Architects for Topeka & Santa Fe railroad closing down for one-half of the day with pay and the Santa Fe shops and many other large employes of this company have been out with the declaration that the work done on Labor day, more so than any other day it had been for several years, and it was the first Labor day parade we have had for over ten years."

The Kansas unionist closes with an invitation to President Gompers from the Industrial Council to visit Topeka next Labor day, and assures the A. F. of L. head that "your presence will do more good work in Topeka than if we had social surveys every month in the year."

MILL MEN REDUCE HOURS.

Springfield, Mass., Jan. 29.—Mill carpenters employed by the Hampden Lumber company have won their strike for a shorter workday. Under the agreement a 48-hour week will be in force with no reduction in wages. Time and one-half will be paid for overtime and double time for Sundays and holidays. The victory has resulted in similar gains in several Holyoke mills.

WHAT UNIONISM CAN DO.

Joplin, Mo., Jan. 29.—Miners' district union No. 21, Western Federation of Miners, has issued an appeal to unorganized miners to join the union. It is declared that the old union there would be no question about establishing a minimum wage and a shorter day. "The old gang of mine bosses a measure of prosperity."

BLAME FOR RIOTING PLACED ON TRUSTS

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 29.—The Leader, of this city, makes the following comment on the strike at East Youngstown:

"The committee on industrial relations has just laid before congress a report of an inquiry into the causes of the recent strike and subsequent riot and destruction of life and property at East Youngstown. The report places the responsibility squarely in front of the door of the manufacturing corporations engaged in the strike. The words are not only plain, but condemning. They are so significant that it is worth while to reproduce a few of them for, if the committee is correct, its report should claim the calm and thoughtful consideration of every man and women. * * *

"Even more significant is the further statement of the report that what happened at East Youngstown was about to happen in other iron and steel manufacturing towns when Judge Gary announced an increase in wages, effective January 1. That, say the committee, is all that saved other cities from riots.

"Not so significant is the statement that Judge Gary advised the Youngstown companies to 'stand pat' against the demands for advance until the riot came on, when he quickly changed his mind and not only advised the Youngstown officials to grant the demand but secured a similar advance for the lowest paid labor of the steel corporation.

"Even a great man knows when he has been bit with a brick."

REAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION.

Washington, Jan. 29.—"Only a few short months ago vocational guidance was conceived of chiefly as a matter of getting the right advice to the boy in the choosing of life work and assisting in securing of positions," says Dr. W. T. Bawden, of the federal bureau of education, in his annual review. "In view of the ambitious attempts made in a few cities, especially in the claims of a few concerns that have investigated the psychological possibilities of vocational guidance, unwisely exaggerated expectations have been raised in the popular mind that must not be realized.

"The most important service that can be rendered the individual youth, in the light of present knowledge, is to set him to thinking, at the proper time, about the problem of choosing a life work and to help him to see clearly faced and prepared for—to make him fully conscious of the existence of its problems, to solved, and aware of the sources of data having any bearing on its solution."

Dr. Bawden predicts that sooner or later a closer correlation will have to be brought about between the school system and the life of the community for which students are educated.

EASTLAND BUILT FOR FREIGHT.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Jan. 29.—At the trial before Federal Judge Sessions of owners of the Eastland, excursion boat which sank in the Chicago river last summer, the government forced Sydney G. Jenks, builder of the boat, to acknowledge that the vessel was built for excursion business, and that the vessel was originally designed to carry a maximum of 1,200 persons. Jenks admitted that it was originally designed for the carriage of freight, principally fruit. From this original purpose, he said, the Eastland was changed to an excursion boat, to carry from 1,500 to 2,800 passengers without any mathematical calculations based on scientific stability tests being made to determine its safety.

Attorneys for Jenks will claim that piling and rock obstructions on the river bottom caused the boat to tip over. They also will attempt to show that outside agencies, such as piling and other obstructions, had not the remotest connection with the disaster, that the boat was of fault construction for excursion purposes, and that the officials of the C. W. Joseph-Chicago Steamship company knew this and overloaded it on an unseaworthy ship to sea for profit.

COPPER STRIKE NOT SETTLED.

Washington, Jan. 29.—Secretary French, of the Arizona state federation of labor, writes that A. F. L. Secretary Morrison that the strike of Arizona copper employes is not settled, despite press reports. Secretary French states that these workers are standing firm in the fight for the eight hour workday and urges that while publicity of this cause be given, together with the need of the funds.

This strike is unusual because of the position taken by Gov. Hunt and county officials. They announced their opposition to strikebreakers and gunmen, and the strikers have been organized by an entire absence of violence and the corporations have initiated recall proceedings against the governor.

REAPING THE WHIRLWIND.

San Francisco, Jan. 29.—"East Youngstown, Ohio, reaped the reward of the 'labor spy, the greed last week," says the Labor Clarion.

"The city has a population of 15,000, but only 50 voters. This condition of affairs has been brought about deliberately by the steel trust through discharging American citizens who were organized, and, therefore, not docile slaves, and replacing them with cheap and subservient foreigners. Just such a thing as happened was to be expected as a direct consequence of the greed of the steel barons."

FAVOR COMPENSATION CHANGES.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 29.—A committee appointed by the state federation of labor to consider the changes in the Michigan compensation law. Meetings have "been held in Detroit and in this city and it has been decided to recommend that the waiting time be reduced before benefits are paid, and that there be increased rates. While the committee will favor asking the legislature for these changes, it is understood that no referendum will have to be finally invoked.

JURISDICTION SETTLED.

Washington, Jan. 29.—A conference between the A. F. of L. executive council and representatives of the State and Tile Roofers' International union of the American Brotherhood of State Workers resulted in a jurisdiction agreement. It is stated that the members of the slate workers have waived claim to the erection or application of roofing slate to roofs or sides of buildings.

OPPOSE DISQUALIFICATION.

Toronto, Ontario, Jan. 29.—Trade unionists are proposing to ask the legislature, when it convenes next month, to abolish the property qualification for the holding of municipal offices. The organized workers are accumulating a grievance against the system. They will also urge the passage of a semi-monthly pay law for labor in the mining districts of the province.

FINED FOR RESIGNING; P. O. MEN CAN'T QUIT

Fairmont, W. Va., Jan. 29.—Postoffice clerks and letter carriers who resigned their positions—quit the service—last November because of a lack of confidence in the postoffice authorities and a civil service commission to award them justice, have been fined sums ranging from $500 down to $5. The fines total $1,000.

On the advice of their counsel the accused employes pleaded nolo contendere (I will not contest) before Judge Dayton in the federal court. Charges against four of the 26 indicted men were dismissed. Because of the worry and mental strain, one of the four, W. H. Fisher, a letter carrier, killed himself with a revolver after he had prepared to attend the trial at Parkersburg. He leaves a widow and three young children.

The government's attorneys and postoffice officials are elated at the outcome of the court proceedings, and declare that the first case of its kind, they say they have secured a precedent that will cover future cases. Summed up, this decision means that under present laws and practices, postoffice employes will lose their positions if they protest against working conditions and they will be fined if they quit their employment.

Some Parkersburg trade unionists are alive to the principles involved and the far reaching effect of the decision. "If the men had a couple of good lawyers," said one of these workers, "they would fight the case through, into accepting a compromise verdict without realizing the importance of fighting the case."

The employes' attorneys did not appear in the district of Mas. One of them assured an A. F. of L. representative "these men were not guilty of anything. It is equally wrong to maintain an action against the government in the courts. This means years of delay and heavy financial loss. That is why they decided not to contest."

It is agreed now that if a fight had been made the country would become aroused to the injustice of the treatment of postal workers by departmental officials. This publicity would undermine the efficiency of bureaucracy that has been perfected by officials who have brought about a condition where every employe is a helpless victim.

These postal workers are members of organizations non-affiliated to the American Federation of Labor. The latter organization is supporting the efforts of the affiliated National Federation of Post Office Clerks which is urging the adoption of the Keating bill, now being discussed and considered in an effort to capture public opinion.

The Keating bill provides for an "aristocracy of labor," who receive more money than the bank president in small towns. The people are entitled to the public that out of every dollar received from freight, the employes are handed 45 cents. The people are told that, owing to this average includes the $75,000 railroad president and the employe who works 10 hours and 6 days a week and maintain his home at one end of the line and a boarding house or room at the other end.

It is predicted that the companies will manifest a greater opposition than campaign in the history of industrial disputes and figures will be juggled to suit the views of the public. So far an inroad on earnings which the interstate commerce commission's records show have been all records.

R. R. SHOP EMPLOYES CONFER.

Washington, Jan. 29.—Officers of unions affiliated to the railroad employes' department of the A. F. of L. are conferring in this city with managers of railroads of the southeastern district, considering the territory south of Washington and east of the Ohio river. Railroad shop employes in this section are demanding an eight-hour day and a wage increase of 8 cents an hour. The executive council of the railroad employes' department is present and the following officials are representing their respective international organizations: President Franklin, boilermakers and iron ship builders; President Johnston, machinists; President Ryan, railway carmen; President Bomar, blacksmiths; President Wilson, metal workers; Vice President Van Dorn, blacksmiths; Organizer Gotchell, electrical workers.

WANTS BANK USURY STOPPED.

Washington, Jan. 29.—Comptroller of Currency William told the house rules committee that a bill now before it for a prison offense for banks to charge usurious rates, bank officials of that state are quite innocent of any guilt. He called urged the passage of a law which would empower the department of justice to punish those who charge more than the legal interest was charged. The comptroller, who has supervision over national banks, stated reports showed that some national banks were charging 22 to 24 per cent on loans, double and in the city and 6 to 8 per 100 to 2,000 per cent. He said that many large banks raised their rates on industrial loans at the outbreak of the war, and were charging 8 to 12 per cent, instead of 5 and 6 per cent.

IRON WORKERS GAIN.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 29.—The new scale of the Structural Iron Workers' union, which was agreed to by the employers some weeks ago, went into effect. Eight hours shall be the work day and the minimum wage shall be 50 cents an hour. Beginning with the first of next year, this rate shall be increased to 67 1-2 cents, and from then on to the expiration of the contract, 70 cents. The rates are to govern all territory that is approximately 50 miles from each city. Double time will be paid for Saturday afternoon, Sundays, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

MINERS PROTEST.

Hazleton, Pa., Jan. 29.—The Miners' union at Cranberry has filed a protest with officers of the Lehigh Valley against the increase of the price of powder 30 cents a keg. The miners say this violates the anthracite committee award.

FRANK WALSH ATTACKS IMMIGRANT "UPLIFTERS"

Philadelphia, Jan. 29.—"Docile subservience, not Americanization, is what you desire," is the concluding statement of Frank Walsh, chairman of the industrial relations committee, in a letter to Frank Trumbull, Chesapeake and Ohio railroad official and chairman of the national Americanization committee, which held a two days' meeting in this city last week.

Mr. Walsh had previously urged the committee to favor trade unionism as the greatest Americanizing agency. He replied on evasive answer.

"If you are determined wilfully to neglect the American trade and labor union as an Americanizing influence," now writes Mr. Walsh, "I cannot avoid the conclusion that your committee is not Americanization, is what you desire."

"Among the active members of your committee are many large employers who are relentlessly resisting any movement that promises to free those employes from industrial tyranny and gross economic exploitation, and by this freeing them to Americanize them, in the only true sense in which that word can be used."

Attention is called to the absence of any relief from conditions existing in large employments, the managers of which are actively connected with the national Americanization committee, and the problem of the immigrant in the present, and other large industries that resist unionism and exploit their workers.

"I find much positive evidence that your efforts are primarily directed to strengthening the chains of industrial tyranny which this country continues to wear," Mr. Walsh writes. "You propose to sanctify and confirm oppression by waving the American flag in the face of its victims, and to insidiously stigmatizing as unpatriotic any attempts they may make to throw off the shackles of the exploiting interests you represent."

"You cite with approval the policy of employers who have used compulsion to force workmen into night schools where they may learn English. You would have employers extend their arbitrary control over the lives of the workers to the home by leasing houses, dictating to them what they shall do in the evening, and threatening them with the loss of their opportunity to earn a living—that is, with starvation for themselves and their families, if they do not obey.

"And it is admitted by you that this hateful use of arbitrary power by the employer is for the purpose of defeating the efforts of strike agitators, preventing strikes and bringing about economic value of the worker to his employer.

"I do not doubt that your committee will be friendly to slight wage increases in industries where exploitation has gone to a limit that threatens to drive its victims from employment. But the real test of the policies which I have pointed out, and the attitude which apparently animates this country, continues Mr. Walsh, "is the willingness of employers to prepared for any really effective exercise of influence to this end; and I must confess that I see no accomplishing of such betterments, if any be accomplished, your committee, and those associated with it, obviously will be acting in the spirit of men who keep their live stock well fed and watered that they may work harder and bear their burdens less complainingly.

"I should rejoice to believe that I am mistaken in my judgment of your activities. The need of Americanizing this nation, of conserving for its citizenship and making our American ideals effective, was never greater. It may be done only by freeing the workers from industrial oppression, and that can only be done by the collective action of the workers themselves."